



09-05-02

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2368/12

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kevin D. Parris, William S. Somers, Amy S. Tam,
Laura L. Lin, and Mark L. Stahl

Serial No. : 09/771,383

Filed : January 25, 2001

For : CRYSTAL STRUCTURE OF ACYL CARRIER PROTEIN SYNTHASE
AND ACYL CARRIER PROTEIN SYNTHASE COMPLEX

Art Unit : 1631

Examiner : Nikolai M. Galitsky

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Name: Alicia F. VasquezSignature: Alicia F. Vasquez

COMMUNICATION IN RESPONSE TO JULY 2, 2002 OFFICE ACTION
AND PETITION FOR A ONE MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
Sir:

This Communication is submitted in response to the Office Action issued on July 2, 2002 in connection with the above-identified application. A response to the Office Action was due on August 2, 2002. Applicants hereby request a one month extension of time to respond to the Office Action. A check is enclosed to cover the \$110.00 fee for a one month extension of time. With the extension of time, a response to the Office Action was due September 2, 2002. However, since September 2, 2002 was a federal holiday (i.e., Labor Day), a response filed the next business day, namely, September 3, 2002, is considered timely pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.7. Accordingly, this Communication is being timely filed.

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Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner required applicants to elect certain claims for prosecution in the subject application. In response to the restriction requirement, applicants hereby elect to prosecute Claims 15-22 (Group II), which are directed to methods for identifying an agent that interacts with an active site of ACPS or ACPS complex. However, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner also consider Claims 23-25 (Group III), which are directed to methods for identifying an inhibitor or an activator of a molecule or molecular complex, together with Claims 15-22 (Group II), since this would not be an undue burden on the Examiner. In this regard, a search of the art for publications relating to the three-dimensional structure of ACPS would find art relevant to both Group II (Claims 15-22) and Group III (Claims 23-25). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Claims 23-25, in addition to elected Claims 15-22, be examined in the subject application. With respect to the species election of Claims 15-22 (Group II), applicants elect species IB (ACPS enzyme in space Group R3) and species I-j (the agent that is an inhibitor of ACPS activity). If the Examiner agrees to consider Group III (Claims 23-25), then applicants also elect species IIIB (structural coordinates of Figure 2) and species I-k (the CoA binding site of Claim 23).

Correction of Drawings

Applicants are concurrently submitting to the Draftsperson under separate cover corrected drawings in response to the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review attached to the July 2, 2002 Office Action. A copy of the submission to the Draftsperson (without copies of corrected drawings) is enclosed.

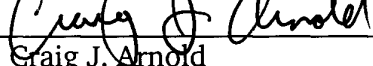
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No fee, other than the \$110 one month extension of time fee, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Communication. If any fee is required to preserve the pendency of the subject application, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 01-1785.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: September 3, 2002
New York, New York

By 
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